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Investigation of sickness reported at Linares.

MAY 13, 1904.

I visited Linares yesterday, accompanied by Doctor Ferguson, for the purpose of investigating an illness from which a number of persons had suffered within the past few days. Upon reaching our destination, which was 2 miles from the town, we learned that all of the sick except two had recovered. These two were carefully examined, and their malady was found to be intermittent malarial fever. The sick who had recovered suffered from the same trouble. From Linares we returned to Monterey, reaching here after midnight.

VILLADAMA, May 15, 1904.

Villadama is a town of about 7,000 population. The sanitary condition is bad, though it is claimed that some sanitary work has been attempted, and some effort made toward the prevention of mosquito propagation. I could learn of no sickness that could be suspected of being yellow fever.

Within a few miles of the town lives an American physician who is employed at the mines. He has considerable practice in the town, and treated yellow fever here last season. He reports that there has been no cases this year. Bustamente is a village of about 5,000 population, located 8 kilometers north of this, and the physician referred to practices in this place also. He reports the same sanitary conditions prevailing as in Villadama, and no suspicious sickness. He has promised to keep me advised as to the health conditions in both places. From here I go to Lampazos to-morrow.

LAMPAZOS, May 16, 1904.

I inspected Lampazos to-day. The town has a population of about 10,000, all Mexican. It has recently been visited by a representative of the Board of Health at Mexico City, who did some disinfection of houses in which cases of yellow fever occurred last season. Some attention was given to the destruction of mosquitoes, and directions were given as to the prevention of their propagation. I could learn of no disease that could be suspected of being yellow fever. There are no towns which require investigation between here and the border. I will therefore leave for San Antonio.

Inspection of Dilley and Pearsall, Tex.

Acting Assistant Surgeon Cock reports, through Passed Assistant Surgeon Richardson, as follows:

DILLEY, TEX., May 13, 1904.

We have finished our work at this point, having fumigated 22 houses, containing 58 rooms. Twelve underground cisterns, besides all containers, have been oiled. We were obliged to purchase 100 pounds of sulphur to complete the work.

The case I mentioned in my last letter as being under observation, proved to be malaria.

We move from here to Pearsall to-day.